

# Reno Flotilla 3 News

Sierra Division 11, District 11 North



## Great Outdoors Days

March 2, 2013

Reno Auxiliaries Ken Messenger (L) and John Boyne (R) represented the Reno Flotilla at the Cabela's Great Outdoors Days in Reno. They talked with customers in the Cabela's store about life jackets and safe boating on Nevada waters. They also discussed the Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Safety Check Program. Boaters can have their vessels inspected to make certain they comply with Federal and State regulations. Recreational Boating Safety is one of the Auxiliary's principle core programs.

## Upcoming Flotilla 3 Events

- March 30<sup>th</sup>  
Work Party at Mike Lawrence's house to prep the Melroy for the Reno Boat Show
- April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Boat Show Set Up at the Reno Convention Center
- April 4<sup>th</sup>  
Inspection of Personal Protective Equipment 7 PM
- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>  
Reno Expo (Boat Show) Reno Convention Center
- April 20<sup>th</sup>  
Boating Safely Course Cabela's in Reno
- May 25<sup>th</sup>  
Operation Safe Boat Lake Almanor

## Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe Wins Phifer Award

Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe was awarded the annual Phifer Award on March 18<sup>th</sup> at Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe. Coast Guard Sector San Francisco Captain Cynthia Stowe made the presentation to Station Chief Helterbridle, and Sierra Division 11 Commander Bill Stolz.

This award is made to the Coast Guard Small Boat Station that has the best working relationship with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Coast Guard Station Chief Bruce Helterbridle commented "this is the best group of Auxiliaries I have ever worked for in my 22 year career." The award is named after Commodore Robert Phifer.

Factors used to determine the award are participation and cooperation in specific projects, events, trainings and fellowship events. Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe has won the Phifer Award on several occasions since 2000.

During the year 2012, the Sierra Division provided 362 hours of regatta patrols at the request of Station Tahoe. Special events last year included fireworks displays, sailboat races, kayak races, outrigger races, standup paddle board events, trans Tahoe swims,



seaplane landings and even a paddle wheel race. Flotilla 1 Auxiliaries Dee Dee Kincade always does a great job of summarizing the many things done by our Division in support of Station Tahoe. This year was no exception.

We already are off to a fast start in 2013. January started off with the dry suit swim and shortly thereafter the Reno Flotilla had its newly renovated facility, The Melroy, on the water at Pyramid Lake for four days during the Crosby's Lodge Fishing tournament.

Our Division has a strong history of good relations with Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe starting years ago with Coast Guard Station Chief Ray Holcombe. We will continue our great working relationship with Station Tahoe and hope to win the Phifer Award many times in the future.

## PPE Inspection



On April 4<sup>th</sup>, Bosun James, the Coast Guard's Operational Training Officer will come to Reno to inspect our Personal Protective Equipment. This year, the Coast Guard is even requiring standardized lanyard material that meets military specifications. Worn out PPE will be replaced.

## District Training Conference, Monterey, California



Reno Auxiliaries Tom Temkin (R) and his wife Susan attended the Saturday night awards banquet. Members of our Division shared a table and fellowship for the evening.

The Phifer Award was announced later in the evening by District Commodore Rod Collins.



Immediate Past Division 11 Commander Leon Borden (right), John Boyne (center) and Kathy Boyne (left) all from the Reno Flotilla, attended the Awards dinner Saturday as well. Although this conference is primarily a training conference we all enjoy the company of our fellow Auxiliaries and their spouses at the dinner.



Diraux Chief Warrant Officer Matt James made several presentations on Personal Protective Equipment (such as life jackets) at the training conference. The goal of the Coast Guard is to have standardized equipment in good repair that is similar to the Coast Guard's.

## Nautical Lore

Pete Rast

### There's the Devil to Pay!

The "devil" was a wooden sailing ship's longest seam in the hull. It was the seam formed by the covering board at the junction of the ship's side and deck. It was difficult to caulk because it was so long, not easy to reach and space to perform the task was tight. The seam was sealed with hot pitch and the process was called "paying".

So, when a sailor was assigned the task of "paying the devil" he was sealing the seam with hot pitch. The full expression was "There'll be the devil to pay and only a half bucket of pitch." When the devil was paid, the sailor assigned the task was on a narrow plank, the covering board, over the sea which gave rise to the expression "between the devil and the deep blue sea."

Brought ashore, the devil became synonymous with Satan so "the devil to pay" came to mean "to catch hell." "Between the devil and the deep blue sea" came to mean "no good option" like "between a rock and a hard place."

This idea of the ship's devil is difficult to visualize. Here's how the Royal Navy defines the devil plank: BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA. A common metaphorical expression meaning "in a quandary". In a wooden ship, the "devil" is the top plank or strake immediately below the sheer strake, and a person working over the ship's side below this plank was working in a very uncertain position.

An interesting article on wooden ship construction can be found here: <http://www.navyandmarine.org/ondeck/1800shipconstruction.htm>

### New Technology Presented at DTrain

#### CAMERA INPUT ABOVE THE WATER



Yes, DTrain is about Training. One interesting class presented new marine technology. This is an image from a Flir infrared camera. There is no doubt what this is! Other interesting technology included broadband radar (very low emissions & continuous wave) and high resolution sonar (able to resolve items as small as a hand gun on the bottom of a lake).